

Swallowing Stones Study Guide—Pages 31-51

Chapter 3 (Michael) p. 31-39:

1. What does Michael see when he looks at the morning paper?
2. Why do you think that Michael “doesn’t want to read the article?”
3. What does Michael want to say to Jenna? Why?
4. Who is Josh?
5. On page 34 Michael begins lying. What TWO lies does he tell?
6. What’s the problem when someone begins to lie?
7. What is Michael’s summer job? Why is this somewhat ironic considering what is happening in his life now?
8. Why is Darcy irritated with Michael?
9. Explain where the title of the book comes from—how does Michael tie it into his current situation?

10. When Michael sees Amy at the pool, explain some of his thoughts about her.

Chapter 4 (Michael) p. 42-51:

1. Why does Michael go to the public library?
2. Why do you think Michael doesn't tell Darcy he failed his driving exam? What dilemma does he get himself into concerning Darcy and driving?
3. On page 45 what does Michael's father say about "irresponsible people?"
4. Why do you think that Michael feels that he "can't be with" Darcy at this moment in his life?
5. On page 47 what does Michael find out about Jenna and the accident?
6. Why did Joe bring Amy to Michael's birthday party? What is his nickname for her? What does this tell you about Joe's character?
7. How does Darcy treat Amy on page 49? What does this tell you about Amy?
8. How does Darcy feel about Joe? What's Joe's state at the party?
9. Who shows up at the party at the end of the chapter?